



Commonwealth of Kentucky Labor Cabinet

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Carhartt's Madisonville Cutting Facility Earns Governor's Safety and Health Award

Clothing factory has worked more than 8 1/2 years without a lost-time incident

MADISONVILLE, Ky. (April 23, 2015) – Deputy Secretary Rocky Comito of the Kentucky Labor Cabinet today joined company officials from Carhartt in Madisonville to recognize employees for earning the Governor's Safety and Health Award. The clothing manufacturer's cutting facility has not had a lost-time incident in more than 603,700 work hours, going back to 2006.

Kentucky Labor Secretary Larry L. Roberts praised everyone involved with the facility.

"The workers at Carhartt should be extremely happy about this accomplishment," said Secretary Roberts. "On average, there are about 16,000 lost-time injuries at workplaces in Kentucky each year. So, to go more than eight years without a lost-time incident is outstanding, and it shows this facility's dedication to safety."

Carhartt manufactures apparel for workers on and off the job. Established in 1889, the company is family-owned. Carhartt employs more than 2,000 people in Kentucky,

Michigan and Tennessee, including 900 union members of the United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW). The UFCW Local 227 represents the workers at the Madisonville facility.

Carhartt's cutting facility in Madisonville has been in operation since 1989, and currently has approximately 50 employees. Carhartt operates three other facilities in Kentucky, including a sewing facility in Edmonton, a distribution center in Hanson, and a supply chain operations center and sewing facility in Irvine.

"We'd like to recognize our associates' commitment to Carhartt's safety and compliance programs," said William Hardy, senior vice president of supply chain at Carhartt. "Eight and a half years without a lost-time incident is a significant accomplishment that makes us extremely proud. The well-being of our associates is our top priority. At Carhartt, a safe working environment is part of our company's culture."

"I'm proud of our members working together at Carhartt to create a safe workplace," said Bob Blair, president UFCW Local 227. "A safe worksite helps everyone involved, from the productivity of the company to the morale of the workers, and that is the case here."

The Kentucky Labor Cabinet presents the Governor's Safety and Health Award in recognition of outstanding safety and health performance. An establishment may qualify for the award if its employees together achieve a required number of hours worked without experiencing a lost-time injury or illness. The required number of hours is dependent upon the number of employees. In the case of Carhartt's Madisonville facility, the requirement is 250,000.

Every establishment within the geographical boundaries of Kentucky is eligible, even if the establishment won the award the previous year. Eligibility is limited to one award during a 12-month period of time.

The award is a certificate mounted on a wooden plaque. The certificate contains the signatures of Kentucky Gov. Steve Beshear, Secretary Roberts and Department of Workplace Standards Commissioner Anthony Russell.

The Governor's Safety and Health Award program is part of Gov. Beshear's efforts to improve the health of all Kentuckians. The Governor launched [kyhealthnow](#) last year as an aggressive and wide-ranging initiative to reduce incidents and deaths from Kentucky's dismal health rankings and habits. It builds on Kentucky's successful implementation of health care reform and uses multiple strategies over the next several years to improve the state's collective health.

For more on the Governor's Safety and Health Award, and for a list of past winners, click [here](#).

For more on Carhartt, visit www.carhartt.com.

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The Kentucky Labor Cabinet's primary responsibility is to ensure that divisions and offices falling under the auspices of the Cabinet work within the jurisdiction of Kentucky labor law to ensure equitable and fair treatment of the Commonwealth's nearly 1.9 million wage-earning employees. The Cabinet, according to regulation, has the duties, responsibilities, power, and authority relating to labor, wage and hour issues, occupational safety and health of employees, child labor, apprenticeship, workers' compensation insurance, and all other matters under the jurisdiction of the Labor Cabinet. For more information, visit www.labor.ky.gov.

